

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 12035 041448Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 031402Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8653
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR EG US IS
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF SADAT SPEECH HIGHLIGHTS U.S.
- ROLE

REF: CAIRO 11935

SUMMARY: MOST PROMINENT ASPECT OF COVERAGE SADAT SPEECH
IS HIS PRAISE OF CARTER'S FIRM STANCE. REPORTS OF
BEGIN VISIT LEAVE IMPRESSION THERE "NO CHANGE" IN U.S.-
ISRAELI DIFFERENCES. AHAM HAS SECRETARY VANCE SAYING
WHEN NECESSARY U.S. WILL "LAUNCH INITIATIVE" TO REVIVE
NEGOTIATIONS. SADAT PRAISE OF CARTER HAS EVOKED SOME
SURPRISE HERE. PORTRAYAL OF VANCE STATEMENT REFLECTS
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WHAT GOE NOW WISHES U.S. WOULD DO. END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN/CARTER. WHILE MOST COVERAGE OF CAIRO PRESS
MAY 3 STEMS FROM SADAT SPEECH, ALREADY REPORTED, AHAM
DOES HIGHLIGHT SADAT PRAISE OF CARTER: "CARTER DID NOT
CHANGE HIS MORAL POLITICAL STAND AND THIS DESERVES
OUR APPRECIATION." GUMHURIYYA EDITORIAL TIES EGYPT'S

GOALS IN THE PEACE PROCESS TO SADAT SPEECH, MAKING EGYPTIAN PEACE EFFORTS PART OF "NEW GUIDE FOR NATIONAL ACTION." PRESS STORIES ON BEGIN/CARTER MEETING (ON P. 4 OF AHAM) HIGHLIGHT THERE NO CHANGE IN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL, DESPITE REPORTED STATEMENT OF BEGIN THAT THERE "DEEP CHANGE" FOR BETTER. PRESS ALSO REFLECTS ISRAELI OPPOSITION TO AIRCRAFT SALES.

2. VANCE REMARKS. AHAM'S PAGE 4 STORY POR-TRAYS U.S. AS ACTIVELY INTERVENING NOW IN PEACE PROCESS. ACCORDING AHAM, VANCE TOLD REPORTERS IN OHIO THAT WHEN NEGOTIATIONS REACH A STATIC STAGE "AS IS THE CASE AT PRESENT", THE U.S. FINDS IT NECESSARY TO LAUNCH INITIATIVE TO REVIVE MOMENTUM. STORY ALSO REPORTS VANCE'S AFFIRMATION THAT AIRCRAFT SALES ARE NECESSARY TO MEET MILITARY NEEDS OF THREE COUNTRIES AND MOVE FORWARD IN THE PEACE PROCESS.

3. COMMENT: SADAT'S EFFUSIVE PRAISE OF PRESIDENT CARTER EVOKED PRIVATE EXPRESSIONS OF SURPRISE FROM SOME EGYPTIANS, WHO FEEL PRESIDENT HAS NOT DONE ENOUGH AND MAY RETREAT IN FACE OF ISRAELI PRESSURE. COVERAGE OF VANCE STATEMENTS REFLECT WIDESPREAD VIEW THAT U.S. MUST NOW COME FORWARD WITH ITS OWN PROPOSAL TO BREAK DEADLOCK. EILTS

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